Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating configuring of resources of a communications environment, said method comprising:

automatically mapping a first identifier of a resource of a communications environment to a second identifier of the resource, wherein the first identifier is usable by hardware to identify the resource and the second identifier is usable by a program of the communications environment to identify the resource.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the resource comprises a communications adapter.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the communications adapter comprises a channel, the first identifier comprises a physical channel identifier (PCHID) and the second identifier comprises a logical channel path identifier (CHPID).

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the communications adapter is of an input/output subsystem of the communications environment, the input/output subsystem being configured as a plurality of input/output images.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping comprises automatically selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier from a plurality of first identifiers, wherein the selecting takes into consideration a definition associated with the second identifier.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the selecting takes into consideration the availability of a plurality of resources associated with the plurality of first identifiers in selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising choosing the second identifier for which mapping is to occur from a plurality of second identifiers, said choosing being based on a priority associated with another resource coupled to the resource.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing as input to the automatically mapping a physical description of one or more resources of the communications environment, said physical description comprising the first identifier.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the physical description is in a report generated in response to ordering a machine of the communications environment, said report being a direct input to the automatically mapping.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising providing as another input to the automatically mapping a logical definition of the resource, said logical definition comprising the second identifier.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein an output of the automatically mapping is an input/output control program statement that includes the first identifier.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising providing the input/output control program statement to a hardware configuration definition to be used to produce an input/output configuration data set usable by the communications environment for configuration.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the second identifier is provided to the automatically mapping via the hardware configuration definition.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping comprises performing one or more selective validations on data input to the automatically mapping.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically mapping is performed to change a configured communications environment.

16. A mapping tool comprising:

a first input comprising one or more physical definitions, said one or more physical definitions comprising one or more physical identifiers of one or more resources of a communications environment;

a second input comprising one or more logical definitions, said one or more logical definitions comprising one or more logical identifiers of one or more resources of the communications environment; and

mapping logic to map a physical identifier of the one or more physical identifiers to a logical identifier of the one or more logical identifiers, wherein the physical identifier is used by hardware of the communications environment to identify a resource associated with the physical identifier and the logical identifier is used by a program of the communications environment to identify the resource.

17. The mapping tool of claim 16, wherein the mapping logic comprises select logic to select the physical identifier to be mapped to the logical identifier, wherein the select logic takes into consideration a definition associated with the logical identifier.

18. The mapping tool of claim 17, wherein the select logic takes into consideration the availability of the one or more resources in selecting the physical identifier to be mapped to the logical identifier.

19. The mapping tool of claim 16, wherein the first input comprises a report generated by an order process, said report being a direct input to the mapping tool.

20. The mapping tool of claim 16, wherein the mapping logic comprises validation logic to perform one or more validations associated with the mapping.

21. The mapping tool of claim 20, wherein a validation of the one or more validations comprises a check of whether a definition associated with the logical identifier is compatible with the resource identified by the physical identifier.

22. The mapping tool of claim 16, wherein the mapping logic provides at least one of a manual function and an automatic function.

23. The mapping tool of claim 22, wherein the mapping logic provides the manual function and the automatic function, and wherein a user can alternate between the manual function and the automatic function.

24. The mapping tool of claim 22, wherein the mapping logic is operating in a manual mode, and wherein a panel is displayed for manual mapping, said panel failing to display one or more logical definitions unavailable for mapping.

25. The mapping tool of claim 16, comprising a third input, said third input comprising one or more saved logical definitions having one or more logical identifiers.

26. A system of facilitating configuring of resources of a communications environment, said system comprising:

means for automatically mapping a first identifier of a resource of a communications environment to a second identifier of the resource, wherein the first identifier is usable by hardware to identify the resource and the second identifier is usable by a program of the communications environment to identify the resource.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the means for automatically mapping comprises means for automatically selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier from a plurality of first identifiers, wherein the selecting takes into consideration a definition associated with the second identifier.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein the selecting takes into consideration the availability of a plurality of resources associated with the plurality of first identifiers in selecting the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier.

29. An article of manufacture comprising:

at least one computer usable medium having computer readable program code logic to manage configuring of resources of a communications environment, the computer readable program logic comprising:

mapping logic to automatically map a first identifier of a resource of a communications environment to a second identifier of the resource, wherein the first identifier is usable by hardware to identify the resource and the second identifier is usable by a program of the communications environment to identify the resource.

30. The article of manufacture of claim 29, wherein the mapping logic comprises select logic to automatically select the first identifier to be mapped to the second identifier from a plurality of first identifiers, wherein the select logic takes into consideration a definition associated with the second identifier.

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